

JUNE 27, 2021
Thirteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time



BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF
TRENTON
MOST REVEREND
DAVID M. O'CONNELL, C.M.

PASTOR
Rev. Garry R. Koch

PAROCHIAL VICAR
Rev. John Michael Patilla

DEACONS
John L. Clymore
Richard L. Morris
Raymond R. Pelkowski
Paul A. Remick
Stephen G. Scott

TEMPORARY MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
following the 9:00 a.m. Mass
and by appointment

Father JM
**LEADER,
MODEL,
SERVANT**

Please join us to honor and thank
Father JM for his service to our Parish
and wish him well in his new
assignment.

Saturday, June 26 | after 5pm Mass
Sunday, June 27 | after 11am Mass
Light reception to follow.

ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL GYM

Wherever the Spirit calls you in the Church,
may you always strive to do the will of the
Father and bring more souls to Christ.
God bless you for your five years of faithful
service to our Parish.
We are forever grateful.

St. Benedict Church



PARISH OFFICE
Office Hours: Monday to Friday
9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Voice: 732/264-4712;
Fax: 732/264-9080
Email: parishoffice@stbenedictnj.org

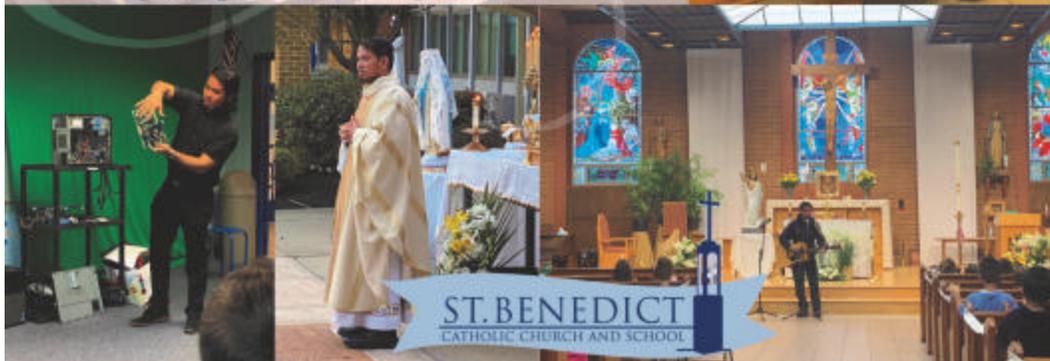
Mr. Bob Cognat,
Facilities Manager
email: cognat@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Francine DeMuria,
Office of Temporal Administration
email: finance@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Margaret Roddy,
Pastoral Minister for
Church Management
and Sacrament Coordination
email: roddy@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Lori Ulrich,
Director of Marketing and
Event Management
email: ulrich@stbenedictnj.org

ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL
Mr. Kevin Donahue, Principal
email: kdonahue@stbenedictnj.org



PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration forms are available in the parish office and on our website at
stbenedictholmdele.org



Like

Like us on Facebook @
St. Benedict Church and School
Follow us on Twitter @stbensholmdele



FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Fellow Parishioners of St. Benedict:

Saying “good-bye” is certainly not easy, but it stands as a necessary part of life, and certainly a routine in the life of priests. This week Father JM takes his leave from us and embarks on his ministry as parochial vicar of St. Joan of Arc Parish in Marlton. He arrived here five years ago as a newly ordained priest, and has certainly made a positive impact on our parish community and, in a special way, with the students in our school as well as at St. John Vianney High School. I have enjoyed our collaboration and will certainly miss working with him.

At the same time we are most fortunate to welcome a new parochial vicar to our parish, as that is becoming less common these days. So, we are grateful to Bishop O’Connell for assigning Father AL Gamalo to our parish. Father AL, a college friend from the Philippines of Father JM, comes to us also with five years of priestly experience under his belt. Since his ordination Father has served as a parochial vicar at St. Gregory the Great Parish in Hamilton Square and as chaplain at Trenton Catholic Academy. I look forward to collaborating with Fr. AL in ministry here at St. Benedict. Obviously any new priest in a parish has a learning curve adapting to the culture of a parish, but I am fully confident that Father AL will make adjustment with aplomb and grace. We will have a short meet and greet with Father AL after the Masses next weekend.

In two weekends – July 11 – we celebrate the feast of our patron, Saint Benedict. As the feast this year falls on a Sunday we are blessed and honored to have Bishop David O’Connell join us to celebrate the 11AM Mass that day. We will also do a brief meet and greet with the bishop following the Mass. As the bishop always has a busy schedule it is certainly generous of his time to come here for our feast day. It has been a couple of years since the bishop has been here, and I look forward to his visit.

As you likely saw the Bishops of the US have announced two initiatives formed around developing pastoral letters. One is on the Eucharist and the other on Marriage and Family. I am pleased to announce that our parish is poised to respond quickly to study, evangelize, and implement these initiatives. We are fortunate to have Deacon Paul Remick who will spearhead the Eucharistic Celebrations and catechesis programs. Lori McCahill, marriage minister, will develop programs around the Marriage and Family Initiative. Both, of course, will coordinate with the Faith Formation office.

Next weekend of course, is our Independence Day weekend, when we get to reflect on the heritage of being Americans and enjoying the rights and freedoms that comes with such. While most of us were born here, many of us are immigrants or from recent immigrant families. Of course, all of us are essentially from immigrant families, even those of us like myself who trace our American heritage to before the American Revolutionary War. The challenging times in which we live cause us to reflect more deeply on what it means to be an American and to share those rights and privileges.

While many people feel that some of those rights are threatened in the woke movement, we must all be attentive to respecting and strengthening those rights for ourselves and our posterity. Let us continue our prayer for, and awareness of, freedom, and especially religious freedom, as those who wish to erode such freedoms often speak louder than those who seek to protect them.

I know that many of you will be traveling next weekend, so a blessed and safe Fourth of July to all of you,

Fr. Garry

The Sacrament of Baptism

Please contact Margaret Roddy at 732/264-4712 ext. 17 or rodody@stbenedictnj.org to make arrangements for your child’s baptism.

The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

Catholics have the duty to receive the Sacrament of Matrimony in a church. Please make contact with the parish office at least one year prior to your intended marriage date to begin the preparation process. This includes attendance at a Pre-Cana Conference and several sessions with our Marriage Minister.

If you are presently in a civil marriage and desire to receive the Sacrament and enter into a valid Catholic marriage, please make contact with the parish office. We offer direction and assistance on receiving an annulment for those who are divorced and re-married. Please do not hesitate to call – the process is generally less difficult or cumbersome than imagined. Please call Lori McCahill, Director of Marriage Ministry at 732/264-4712 ext. 27 or mccahill@stbenedictnj.org

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

Parishioners who are ill or unable to get about are often the most neglected and in need. Please make contact with the parish office for any of the following ministries or services:

Anointing of the Sick – the priests will visit the persistently homebound at least twice per year but are available to come to your home anytime that there is a health crisis or a deteriorating condition. Please do not wait until the person is in the final stages of life – except for an emergency – to call for a priest.

Reception of Holy Communion – if a homebound parishioner would like to receive Holy Communion, please make contact with the parish office.

Hospital Nursing Homes – please call the office if a parishioner or a loved one is at Bayshore Community Hospital or has been moved into a local nursing home so that we can tend to the pastoral needs. For family members hospitalized outside of the area the in-house chaplaincy services can tend to the immediate needs. One of the priests will pay a visit as requested.

Community Outreach

Help for People with Medicare (SHIP) - SHIP is a State Health Insurance Program that provides FREE, objective, confidential help to Medicare beneficiaries who have problems or questions with Medicare, Medigap, Medicare Advantage Plans, Part D and Long-Term Care. Please call Lorrie McGee, Pastoral Minister for Community Outreach at 732/264-4712 ext. 37 or mcgee@stbenedictnj.org.



Saturday, June 26th

5:00 p.m. **Joseph Walsh**
req. Clergy, Staff and Parishioners of St. Benedict

Sunday, June 27th

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. **Pro Populo¹**
9:30 a.m. **Anthony Vallario** req. The McCahill Family
11:00 a.m. **Robert Sekel, Sr.** req. Sandra Sandor

Monday, June 28th

Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr

9:00 a.m. **Renato Ynaya**
req. The Buenviaje and Chiuasano Families

Tuesday, June 29nd

Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

9:00 a.m. **Anthony Marzigliano** req. Bob and Diane Laskowski
Mary Skorka req. The Doxbeck and Karpie Families
Marie Karpie req. The Doxbeck and Karpie Families
Lydio Lachica req. The Gan Family
Agnes Doherty req. The Lucas Family
Sal Randazzo req. Melissa Pino
Joan Cashes req. The Limeri Family
George Burke
req. Clergy, Staff and Parishioners of St. Benedict
Eileen Marini
req. Clergy, Staff and Parishioners of St. Benedict
Dominic and Anita Carinha
req. Clergy, Staff and Parishioners of St. Benedict

Wednesday, June 30th

The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church

9:00 a.m. **Daniel, Charlotte and Dylan Vassallo**
req. The Vassallo Family
Dianne Cavallaro req. The Vassallo Family
Adam Quinones req. Mom and Dad
Nickolas Sanna req. SBS Class 7A
Dinh Nguyen req. Truc Ambrozia
Anthony Marzigliano req. Karen D'Amore
Alfonso Tucci
req. Clergy, Staff and Parishioners of St. Benedict
Jack Lietz req. The Lucas Family
Gail Imbro
req. Clergy, Staff and Parishioners of St. Benedict
Tadensz Dudek
req. Clergy, Staff and Parishioners of St. Benedict

Thursday, July 1st

Saint Junipero Serra, Priest

9:00 a.m. **Rosemarie Poggi O'Neill** req. The DeMuria Family

Friday, July 2nd

9:00 a.m. **Ernie and Julio Taleon**
req. The Velasco, Suarez and Polchinski Families

¹ For the People of St. Benedict

Saturday, July 3rd

Saint Thomas, Apostle

Memorial Mass Society

5:00 p.m. **Kathleen Battaglia** req. The Sutherland Family
Frank DelBalso req. Mary and Bill Perkins
Michael Joseph Dale req. Mom and Dad
Laura Harriot req. James Harriot
Thomas Rieling req. James Harriot
Dan Fotopoulos req. James Harriot
Norma Jean Devico req. James Harriot
Anne Sugalski req. James Harriot
Edward Sugalski req. James Harriot
Paul Malatesta req. James Harriot
Richard Devico req. James Harriot
James Kinlaw req. James Harriot
Barbara Dick req. James Harriot
Gerald Rodelli req. James Harriot
Flavious Guglielmo req. James Harriot
David Sheridan req. James Harriot
Betty Humphrey req. Pat Liptzin
Walter Callari req. The McCahill Family

Sunday, July 4th

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. **Pro Populo**
9:30 a.m. **Ana Milohnic** req. Dragica Milohnic
11:00 a.m. **Anna Mae Kopinski*** req. Mom and Dad
**Living Intention*

Please remember in your prayers all those whose names are listed in our Prayer Intention Book

Memorial Intentions
Sanctuary Candle
In loving memory of *Anthony Vallario*
req. Annette Lacerra and Family



The author of The Cloud of Unknowing prays, "That which I am and the way that I am, with all my gifts of nature and grace, you have given to me, O Lord, and you are all this. I offer it all to you, principally to praise you and to help my fellow Christians and myself." Knowing that God sustains us in being is the key to

faith. All that we need to do is to love God as God is and the rest will begin to fall into place. God made us in His image and desires that we have life. God also desires that we be healed of all of our wounds, especially those caused by sin, and know his loving touch. Being weighed down by negativity, imperfections, the cares of the world, and weakness is not something that God desires.

Faith can profoundly change how we see God, ourselves, and one another. It gives a clearer lens through which to see life and connects us with the powerful virtues of love and hope. Three friends journeying with us through all that we encounter, faith, hope, and love, help us experience God's embrace and heal us. All we have to do is let God be who God is and not foolishly try to make Him into what we need or want Him to be. Without God we cease to be. It's that simple. The very blood that flows through my veins and the life that I have come directly from Divine origins. With this knowledge of who God is and who I am, I can open my ears and hear the powerful words Jesus speaks, "Do not be afraid, just have faith." Trust begins.

Ask God to heal you from all that separates you from Him. Put aside any ideas of God that create barriers between you and God's tender and endearing presence. The Cloud of Unknowing leaves us with wisdom, "think of yourself and of him in the same way, that is, with the simple awareness that he is as he is and that you are as you are." This is a meeting of two friends who desire nothing more than to share life together.

**St. Benedict Church Bulletin
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**St. Benedict Catholic Church
Memorial Mass Society**

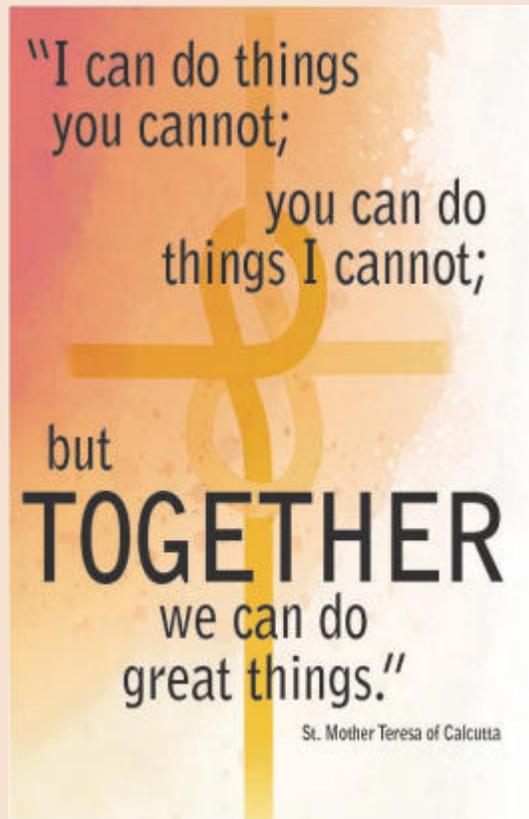
For a suggested donation of \$20 those who are enrolled in the Memorial Mass Society will benefit from Masses to be celebrated on Twelve First Saturday's. A book with the names of all those enrolled will be placed near the altar for the Memorial Mass. The names of first time enrollees will be read at the first Mass in which they are remembered. When requesting enrollment in the Memorial Mass Society a blue padded Mass Card will be provided for presentation to the family of the deceased.



MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES

If you would like to memorialize the Altar Bread and Wine, Altar Flowers or Sanctuary candle in honor/memory of a loved one for one week, please contact the parish office.

If you would like to memorialize one or all of the candles in our Lady of Victory Adoration Chapel in honor/memory of a loved one for one week, please contact the parish office. All intentions will be listed in the bulletin.



Father Garry is pleased to announce that St. Benedict has received over \$83,843 in pledges for the Annual Catholic Appeal. Our goal is \$95,000. Once the goal has been reached 50% of all subsequent donations will be returned to St. Benedict in a parish rebate. **If you have yet to make your gift, pledge forms are still available at the doors of the Church.**

The Annual Catholic Appeal-In Action!

Clergy and Religious Administration

The Ministry of Clergy Personnel assists the Bishop every day in the assignment of priests and deacons in the diocese, handles all personnel matters pertaining to active and retired priests, and works with priests from outside the diocese who seek to minister in the diocese.

Ministry of Clergy Personnel keeps priests and deacons informed of events in the diocese specifically for its clergy, assists in the continuing education of clergy, the annual convocation of priests and in working throughout the diocese. Your gift supports the Bishop, priests and deacons in serving all parishioners in the Diocese of Trenton.

MERCIFUL SAVIOR PRAYER GROUP-CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

The St. Benedict Merciful Savior Prayer Group meets every Monday (except when a holiday falls on a Monday) at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel. For further information, please call Sal and Janice Alagona at 732/264-5744 or Geri Ventura at 732/566-6642.

MUSIC MINISTRY

The Contemporary Choir sings every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Mass. The Youth Choir sings at the 9:30 a.m. Mass on the second and fourth Sundays. The Teen Choir sings at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on the third Saturday. For information about the Contemporary Choir, please contact Tom O'Brien, Choir Director at thomasobrienjr1@gmail.com

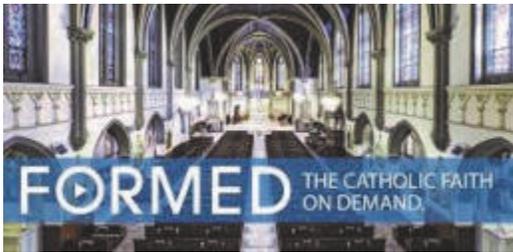
For information about the Youth Choir or Teen Choir, please contact Ellen Remick, Choir Director at remick@stbenedictnj.org

PRAYER INTENTION GROUP-CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

The Prayer Intention Group meet after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Chapel to pray for one another's special intentions.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on alternate Tuesday mornings to knit or crochet shawls for those who are ill or have lost a loved one. If you would like a shawl for someone or would like to join us on Tuesdays, please call Caroline Cattani at 732/241-5150



Discover the best Catholic content in one place. **FORMED** is a wonderful website that has been called a "Catholic Netflix". Entertaining movies, enlightening programs, inspiring talks and audio dramas a great selection of popular e-books. Go to **FORMED.org** and register with our parish code **HHNG3M**.

Check <https://leaders.formed.org/> for inspirational resources for Faith Formation in June 2021.

PARISH COUNSELING SERVICES

Through a joint effort of the Diocese of Trenton and Catholic Charities, licensed professional counselors are available to help parishioners with difficult issues that interfere with day-to-day functioning. This service can be accessed by contacting your pastor or parish priest who will provide additional information and a referral. The fee is \$90.00 per session. If needed, financial assistance for short term counseling (up to 6 sessions) is available through the Diocese of Trenton Parish Counseling Services.



Mr. Kevin Donahue, *Principal*
email: kdonahue@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Christine Keeling, *Vice Principal*
email: keeling@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Monica Hurni, *Administrative Assistant*
email: hurni@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Pat Tobino, *Administrative Assistant*
email: tobino@stbenedictnj.org



SCRIP

Store/Gift cards

The SCRIP Program provides an opportunity for school families to earn tuition credit by purchasing gift cards for supermarkets, retailers, restaurants, travel destinations, hotels, service providers and more. The list of cards we carry is on the Counter Sales Form. Any other cards available through SCRIP can be ordered using the SCRIP Order Form. Both forms can be printed from the SBS website under the SCRIP tab or the Forms tab. Payment for these cards are made with a check or cash at time of purchase or order. For additional information please contact Lorrie McGee at mcgee@stbenedictnj.org or by phone 732-264-4712 ext. 37.

Our Promise to Protect

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan

Abuse Hotline: **1/888-296-2965** or abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org.

The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.



Lord Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, give to our young people the generosity necessary to follow your call, and the courage required to overcome all obstacles to their vocation.

Give to parents that faith, love, and spirit of sacrifice which will inspire them to offer their children to God's service, and to rejoice whenever one of their children is called to the priesthood or religious life. May your example and that of your Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph, encourage both young people and parents to let your grace sustain them.

Amen.

Living

- Fr. John Bambrick
- Fr. Thomas Barry
- Fr. Richard Basznianin
- Fr. William Bausch

Seminarian-Anthony Gentile

Discerning-Stephen

Deceased

- Fr. Henry Martens
- Msgr. William F. Dittrich
- Fr. Walter T. Doyle
- Fr. Matthew Adackapara
- Msgr. Francis A. Kasproicz
- Fr. David A. Adams
- Fr. Thomas R. Rittenhouse
- Fr. Charles J. Farren
- Fr. John J. Meehan
- Fr. Donald Hickey
- Fr. Joseph M. Sutliff
- Fr. Leo Schwarze
- Fr. Raymond S. Bianchi

**Why Not You?
Why Not Now?**



Wondering who to talk to? Did you know Father Garry serves on our Diocesan Vocation team? Call or make an appointment and they would be happy to answer any questions.

Email: Father Garry Koch fgarry@stbenedictnj.org



The Worthy Brothers of Council 11349 extend our gratitude and congratulations to **Grand Knight Jose Delgado** for his dedication and leadership for the past two Columbia Years from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021. His tireless efforts throughout the most difficult of times during the pandemic can only be measured by the outstanding accomplishments our Council achieved. Jose has set an excellent example for the newly elected officers taking over the reins starting July 1, 2021.



Council 11349 Officers for the 2021-2022 Columbian Year

- Robert Hale.....Grand Knight
- John Mackey.....Deputy Grand Knight
- Pete McNally.....Treasurer
- Deacon Rich Morris.....Recording Secretary
- Tim Hoye.....Chancellor
- Bob Cognat.....Warden
- Sam Ali.....Inside Guard
- Mike Recco.....Outside Guard
- Joe Mendryk.....Financial Secretary
- Dan Kane.....Advocate
- Matt Buhse.....First Year Trustee
- John Gargana.....Second Year Trustee
- Jose Delgado.....Third Year Trustee

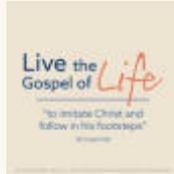
Best wishes to Grand Knight Robert Hale and all the officers for a successful and enjoyable Columbian Year.



Member Knights

The next Knights of Columbus business meeting will be an in-person meeting on Thursday, July 1st at 8:10 p.m. in the school gym. Please enter door 8-B located at the rear of the church. There will also be a link via zoom for those members who prefer to stay virtual.

Respect Life News



June 17, 2021, Washington, DC (LifeNews.com) -

The Supreme Court has unanimously ruled that the state can't shut down a Catholic adoption agency that refused to compromise its Christian values. The encouraging ruling has positive ramifications for the pro-life movement when it comes to conscience rights issues for pro-life groups and individuals. In 2018, the city of Philadelphia canceled its contracts with Catholic Social Services due to its religious beliefs about marriage, displacing hundreds of children in the process. The city had put out an urgent call for 300 families to provide foster care to help care for the flood of children coming into the system due to the opioid crisis. Just a few days later, right in its moment of need, the city halted the child placements of Catholic Social Services and Bethany Christian Services to investigate whether these agencies had violated the city's Fair Practices Ordinance, a policy that prohibits "discrimination" on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. Some religious adoption agencies opt to place children only with mother-father parents, in accord with their deeply held religious convictions. In March 2018 the city suddenly threatened to shut down the agency because it disagreed with the agency's longstanding religious beliefs about marriage—even though not one LGBTQ couple has ever approached Catholic seeking certification and the agency never prevented a child from finding a home. "I am overjoyed that the Supreme Court recognized the import work of Catholic Social Services and has allowed me to continue fostering children most in need of a loving home," said foster mom and named plaintiff Sharonell Fulton. "My faith is what drives me to care for foster children here in Philadelphia and I thank God the Supreme Court believes that's a good thing, worthy of protection."

Healing the Wounds of Abortion

The psychological and spiritual wounds of abortion can be sharp, deep and crippling. You may feel a deep numbness and may not be able to name the pain or recognize any of the symptoms. Rachel's Vineyard's Retreat is a chance to focus on this painful time in your life through a supportive non-judgmental process, in an atmosphere of confidentiality, understanding, and compassion. It is designed to help both women and men experience the mercy and compassion of God. If you have suffered through an abortion and have isolated yourself from healing and forgiveness, you might consider attending one our retreat weekends. For more information, contact Judy Warkiewicz at 732/536-6871. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

REIGNING MERCY

Have you suffered an abortion? Experience God's love and mercy and begin the journey of healing. Please call the Sisters of Life 888/575-0075 or email: hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

A social ministry, SVdP provides spiritual, food distribution, emergency financial and other services to those in need. For assistance, please call 732/264-4712 ext. 33, and leave a message. Your call will be returned.

Please do not leave a message for financial assistance on the Emergency line.

For questions or to volunteer please contact
Bill Casey – billy.casey@hotmail.com



FOOD PANTRY HOURS

The St. Benedict Food Pantry is open on Wednesdays ONLY from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. until further notice.

Please wear a mask.

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED:

Below is a suggested list of items needed for our Food Pantry, however all donations

Diapers (all sizes)	Baby Food (stages 2/3)
Baby Wipes,	Children's cereal
Coffee/Tea	Juice
Soup	Soap
Shampoo	Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
Laundry Detergent	Dish Detergent
Toilet Tissue	

When donating please check expiration dates as we cannot accept expired items.

Thank you for your generosity.

SCRIP

The St. Vincent DePaul Society provides assistance for the less fortunate. Parishioners are asked to use the SCRIP envelopes, available in the parish office and make a donation toward the purchase of a supermarket gift card.

SCRIP envelopes can be placed in the collection basket at the entrance of the Church or at the Parish Office.

We are grateful to all who kindly make donations throughout the year. Your kindness puts food on tables!

Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,

Time flies. It is hard to believe that it has already been five years since I first came here to St. Benedict Parish. But as many would say, “time flies if you’re having a good experience.” And so, as you all know, after five fruitful years filled with great memories, I am now moving to another parish – to another adventure, another parish exposure.

I am so grateful first and foremost to Fr. Garry for his guidance, mentorship, and friendship. It has been a great opportunity working with him as he leads the parish community to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I thank him for letting me grow in different aspects of priestly life. Thank you also to my brother deacons for the friendship and good memories of love, hope, and service to the people of God. I am grateful too to the staff of St. Benedict Church for their unending support and prayers all throughout my ministry here at St. Benedict. To the faculty and staff of St. Benedict Catholic School, I extend my gratitude to you all for letting be a part of a great community, especially to walk with our students on the path of faith, commitment, and excellence. To the different ministries here at St. Benedict, thank you all for your prayers and for giving me opportunities to serve God’s people.

A priest once told me, “Priesthood is meaningless without Christ but you will find Him in the people that you will serve - priesthood will then be meaningful!” I am blessed and thankful to all the people/families of St. Benedict Catholic Church and School for sharing your faith with me, for letting me walk with you in good times and in bad. Thank you for sharing your laughter as well as your tears. I will forever treasure these things and forever they will be a great part of my priesthood. I am truly blessed to be a part of this great parish community. Rest assured of my prayers for all of you and please continue to pray for me too. Thank you and God bless you all.

With love and prayers,

Fr. JM



YOUNG MEN INVITED TO VOCATIONS MASS, BBQ WITH BISHOP

An afternoon of discussion and camaraderie with the Diocese’s shepherd and priests will take place June 29th for those discerning a call to the priesthood.

Bishop David M. O’Connell, C.M., will celebrate Mass at 4:30 p.m. in St. John Church, Allentown, followed by a barbecue under tents on the parish property. Men ages 15 to 40 are invited to attend.

“The aim of this event is to connect with potential new discerners, as well as to foster community among our current discerners,” said Father Jason Parzynski, diocesan director of vocations. “It’s a great low-key event to invite someone who is hesitant or just beginning to think about the priesthood.”

Those seeking more information, men currently in formation and ordained clergy of the vocations team will be present at the barbecue.

“This is for those who ... want to see what it’s all about – an opportunity to connect, ask questions,” Father Parzynski said. “The ultimate aim is to discern God’s will and to help them have the confidence to make the next choice – whether it’s to enter seminary or to go another direction.”

Registration is required and can be made at www.GodIsCallingYou.org,
or by emailing vocations@dioceseoftrenton.org.

St. John Church is located at
1282 Yardville Allentown Rd., Allentown.



We welcome into our Parish Family through the Sacrament of Baptism

*Jameson Robert Conduis
Demi Rose Jirak
Lilliana Rose Prucher
Robert James Santner*



Religious Freedom Week 2021: Solidarity in Freedom

Drawing upon inspiration from great saints who remained faithful in the face of adversity, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has assigned June 22nd-29th as Religious Freedom Week – a week beginning with the Feasts of Sts. John Fisher and Thomas More, ending with the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul and including the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist.

“During Religious Freedom Week, Catholics are encouraged to pray and act each day for religious freedom,” said Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York and chairman of the USCCB Committee for Religious Liberty. RFW replaces the Fortnight for Freedom that ran 2012-2017.

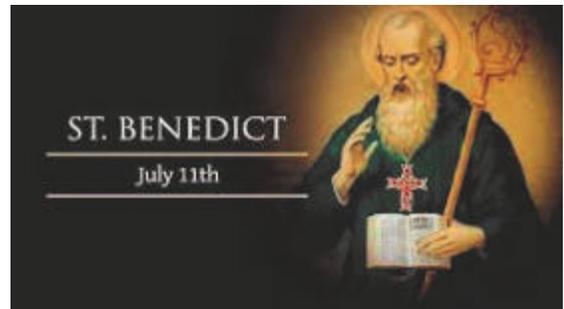
The 2021 theme, “Solidarity in Freedom,” expresses the Church’s solidarity with all those who “seek the good and who hope for fulfillment in the truth, which the Church teaches is ultimately found in Jesus Christ,” according to the USCCB.

How can you participate

- The USCCB provides “Pray – Reflect – Act” resources at www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek—one for each day on different religious liberty topics. These materials help people learn about religious liberty from a Catholic perspective, pray about particular issues, and act on what they learn by advocating for policies that promote religious freedom.
- Learn more about the Equality Act at www.usccb.org/equality-act and check out the USCCB Action Center at www.votervoicenet.org/USCCB/home for legislative updates on this and other important policy issues.
- Connect with the USCCB Committee for Religious Liberty. Text FREEDOM to 84576 and Sign up for First Freedom News, the USCCB Committee for Religious Liberty’s monthly newsletter.



The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, July 5th in observance of Independence Day.



The feast day of St. Benedict falls on a Sunday this year. We are honored to have Bishop O’Connell with us to celebrate the 11:00 a.m. Mass.



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Space is limited. Call today!
For more information please contact:
Cecelia Szekul | Director of Pilgrimages, Diocese of Trenton
Phone: (609) 496-7446 | Email: Pilgrimages@DioceseofTrenton.org
To Register: 301-923-6118 | www.TheCatholicJourney.com/0622Trenton



Faith Formation

Faith Formation at St. Benedict is committed to offering programs that will help enhance our participation and deepen our understanding of the Catholic faith. We offer programs for parishioners of all ages to deepen their spiritual lives and grow closer to God.

Mrs. Melissa Dayton, *Director of Faith Formation*
732-264-4712 ext. 26
email: mdayton@stbenedictnj.org

Mr. Ciro Saverino
Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
732-264-4712 ext. 12
email: saverino@stbenedictnj.org

Miss Rachel denHartog
Assistant Coordinator of Religious Education
732-264-4712 ext. 12
email: denhartog@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Carol Cesario, *Administrative Assistant*
732-264-4712 ext. 24
email: cesario@stbenedictnj.org



In-Person Summer Academy details can be found **HERE**:
<https://parish.stbenedictholmdel.org/in-person-summer-program>

Virtual Summer Academy details can be found **HERE**:
<https://parish.stbenedictholmdel.org/virtual-summer-program>

Craft pick up for Virtual Summer Academy will be held:
Monday, June 28th: 12:00 noon-3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, June 29th: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

We are looking for high school students to volunteer for Summer Academy the weeks of July 12th and July 19th.

Interested students should access this link to complete our volunteer form <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/19oiA2tyjE5sO4fwiTKbQE86IHuZoa2v7aRg1JH9U-vE/edit> You will be contacted upon receipt of form. Service hours will be offered.



Grade 1-6 and 8th grade Traditional Program registration for 2021-2022 is open

Virtual and In-person options are available.

<https://parish.stbenedictholmdel.org/registration-virtual-traditional>

If you are interested in volunteering for either our Summer Academy or Traditional Program please contact: Melissa Dayton mdayton@stbenedictnj.org or call 732-264-4712 ext. 26



This Sundays reading for children
Catholic Brain St. Benedict code: **STB19535**



Sunday, July 4th, and every 1st Sunday of the month, ALL young people are invited to the 11:00am Mass! To make new friends; to encourage each other in their faith, to inspire each other to serve and participate more reverently in the

liturgy. The young people can sit with their families, or they can sit with Mr. Ciro Saverino, the Coordinator of Youth Ministry in the front. Either way, we hope you'll say "Hello!" on the Church courtyard.

RSVP by contacting Ciro, saverino@stbenedictnj.org.

Wednesday, July 21st, 5:00-6:00 p.m., and every 3rd Wednesday of the month, all **MIDDLE SCHOOLERS** (6-8th grade) are invited to the **JR. CYO** program. RSVP by contacting Ciro, saverino@stbenedictnj.org.



Virtual Prayer, video's, Apps and Conferences for Stay at Home/Covid-19 can be found under the adult programs tab on the St. Benedict website

<https://parish.stbenedictholmdel.org/adult-programs>

June Faith Family Calendar

<https://d2y1pz2y630308.cloudfront.net/15175/documents/2021/5/BENEDICTJUNE.pdf>



Are you a young adult (18-39)? Are you looking for a vibrant community of other young adults? Maybe you are a single person, a couple, or discerning the religious life. If so, then St. Benedict is the place for you! We welcome all newcomers to

our young adult group. For more information or to join our mailing list, please contact Ciro Saverino saverino@stbenedictnj.org

Year of St. Joseph

June: Head of the Holy Family

- a. **Glory of Domestic Life**
- b. **Mirror of Patience**

The Holy Family by Michelangelo (part 2)

by Kelly Bagdanov

Hints at Michelangelo's move toward Mannerism

The Holy Family is painted in typical Michelangelo fashion. They feel sculpted. Both Mary and Joseph are muscular and solid. Their clothing is vibrant, and there are clear outlines around their bodies creating sharp, clear images. The volume and draping of the fabric is substantive and has weight. A sculpture first, all of Michelangelo's paintings have this feel to them.



Both the sculpted feeling, the twisting pose of Mary, and the gorgeous colors are precursors of the work that Michelangelo will do when painting the sibyls in the Sistine Chapel. In fact, the colors themselves are worth paying attention to, as this work and the Sistine Chapel will usher in a new age in painting, Mannerism.

Mannerism is a style that developed in the late Renaissance. Growing tired of the perfectly composed, harmonious works of

the high Renaissance, artist began to experiment with exaggerated colors, elongated bodies, and twisting, contorted poses to inject emotion and drama into their works. Michelangelo had mastered the ideals of the Renaissance, began to alter his style in his later career. We can see that transition occurring in this painting. The heightened emotions and colors of Michelangelo's late style will inspire many of his contemporaries, and establish Mannerism as the predominant style for decades.

John the Baptist

In contrast to the clear figures in the foreground, the figures in the distance are a bit vague, their edges blurred, a nod to the fact that these figures are distant from the family. We have a small wall separating the foreground from the figures in the background. On the right is John the Baptist, also a child. He would only have been a few months older than Christ. John was the patron saint of Florence and so it was very common for Florentine artist to include him in their paintings of Jesus' family, or of the Madonna and child.

The 3 eras of man

Behind him are 5 mysterious nudes. Two to the left, three to the right. There are theories as to who these figures represent, but no one really knows for sure. I'm going to give you the theory that seems the most likely to me. The figures are presented not in space but in time, or history and represent three ages of man.

The five figures in the background represent the pagan age, or as it was sometime referred to, era ante legem meaning before the word of God. Mary who has a book on her lap represents post legem, or after the word. John the Baptist is the connection between the two eras.

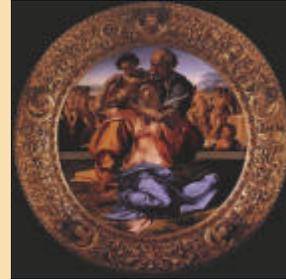
John appears to be in water, appropriate as he is the baptist, but also appropriate if this painting is representing the different eras. The pagans also practiced a baptism of neophytes, and hence these figures are naked as going to or coming from baptism.

John practices a baptism that prepares the way for Christ, so John and water unite the two images or eras.

You will note that while Christ is the focus in the foreground, and John the Baptist is looking at the Family, the nudes in the background appear unaware of their presence. Another indication that we are looking at a picture of temporal distance not spatial distance.



The flowers in the front of the frame and in the grasses are clover, signifying the trinity, and cornflower or hyssop, referencing the Passion of Christ.



The Frame

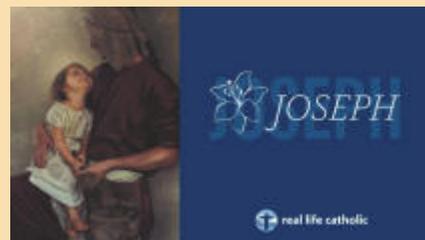
The frame, which was designed by Michelangelo and likely carved by Marco and Francesco del Tasso is gilded in gold and is still with the painting. There are flowers, moons, ribbons and other elements carved into the frame that were pulled from the family crest of the the Doni's and his brides family, showing them

linked around the frame. There are also 5 sculpted heads that stick out from the frame. At the top is Jesus, there are two prophets, and then two sibyls.

Again, the repetition of the prophets and sibyls are precursors to the iconography that Michelangelo will expound on in the Sistine Chapel. Sibyls are ancient prophetess's and several were believed to have predicted the coming Messiah, and so are often included in religious paintings.

It is unusual for the frames of paintings to survive intact and we are lucky to have this one.

I hope you've enjoyed this look at a lesser-known painting by the esteemed Michelangelo. [This is an interesting very short video of the Doni Tondo being moved while renovations were going on.](#)



Real Life Catholic is a website that offers live events, coaching, inspiration for everyday life and much more. You can access Real Life Catholic program on St. Joseph using the link provided <https://coaching.reallifecatholic.com/reallifejoseph> Take part on a journey with Joseph, a 37 episode personal development program to get to know St. Joseph, but more importantly, to help you discover more Jesus, more joy and more purpose in your everyday life. There is a small fee for this course.

To learn more about St. Joseph click on the link below to access our dedicated page to him.
<https://parish.stbenedictolmdel.org/year-of-st-joseph-1>

Faith Formation



GOT Faith QUESTIONS?

RCIA might just be for you!

RCIA is for someone who:

- Is interested in becoming Catholic
- Was never baptized
- Was baptized in another Christian denomination
- Is married to a Catholic and is interested in sharing their spouses faith.

RCIA is time of exploration. We gather to discuss the truths, teachings, and practices of the Catholic Faith in an open forum, with sound presentations and lively discussions.

This process involves time not only for instruction, but also growth in the practice of the faith through discussion and prayer. RCIA meetings are held on Sunday mornings over a cup of coffee! Maybe you are baptized Catholic but have not received the Sacrament of Eucharist and Confirmation? This is the place for you to grow in faith. Remember, it is never too late to receive the sacraments.

Please call Carol Cesario at 732-264-4712 ext. 24 if you have any questions.

Never Completed your Sacraments Confirmation class for Adults



Are you a baptized Roman Catholic, have made your First Communion, are over the age of 18 and have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation? If you would like additional information please email Carol Cesario at cesario@stbenedictnj.org or by calling 732/264-4712 ext.24



Children who need to be caught up on faith formation and sacraments may attend a 6-8 week class depending on the circumstance. This class is offered once in the Fall and once in the Spring. Please contact the Carol Cesario in the

Faith Formation office at 732/264-4712 ext. 24

Grief Support Group

This Peer Support group is for those grieving the death of a loved one. If you have lost a loved one, please join others who have also experienced a loss for a series of six sessions of information, mutual sharing and peer support in a spiritual, caring, and confidential setting. We invite you to participate, we are using *The New Day Journal, A Journey from Grief to Healing*. The sessions will include time for readings, sharing, reflection and journaling.

If you would like more information about the group please contact Carol DeMuria at carol.demuria@gmail.com or call 732/239-2053



Lori McCahill: Director of Marriage Ministry
mccahill@stbenedictnj.org or 732/264-4712, ext. 27

Marriage Ministry Helpful Hints for a happy marriage:

THE GOOD STUFF: So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. ([Genesis 1:27](#))

ACTION POINTS: What was the last (minor) argument you and your spouse had? Is there a possibility that it was less about the issue and more about personal preference? Consider how you can look at the issue from your spouse's point of view. See anything different?



RETROUVAILLE:

REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of August 13 - 15, at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Engagement and Anniversary Announcements

The Marriage Ministry would like to celebrate all engagements and anniversaries for members of our parish. For newly engaged couples receiving the Sacrament of Matrimony at St. Benedict please send in a engagement photo and we will announce your wedding date in the bulletin. For couples celebrating a special anniversary please send in your wedding photo and we will announce your special anniversary in our bulletin. All photos must be in a jpeg format and emailed directly to bulletin@stbenedictnj.org. Please provide the date of your upcoming wedding or anniversary.



The Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

JUNE 27, 2021



RELIGIOUS
FREEDOM
WEEK

Religious Freedom Week ends June 29

All people desire to enjoy communion with God, and this desire gives rise to the search for religious truth and finds expression in the formation of religious culture. Even people who claim no religious affiliation cannot help but need ritual, belonging, and truth. Why? Because we all long to know and love the One in whose image we are made. "For God formed man to be imperishable; the image of his own nature he made him."

The Church's promotion of religious freedom expresses her solidarity with all people who seek the good and hope for fulfillment in the truth. *As Pope Francis teaches:*

Hope speaks to us of a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, a desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice and love ... Hope is bold; it can look beyond personal convenience, the petty securities and compensations which limit our horizon, and it can open us up to grand ideals that make life more beautiful and worthwhile (Fratelli tutti, 55).

Join us throughout the week as we pray, reflect, and take action on religious liberty, both here in this country and abroad.

First Freedom Podcast

Looking for a new podcast? Check out the First Freedom Podcast, a series of conversations about a variety of issues related to religious liberty, including challenges to our first freedom, Catholic social teaching, and more! Available on Sound Cloud.



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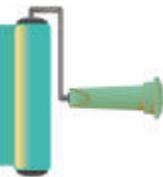
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